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USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3400
Date: July 24, 2008

Mr. Eric Helms
Environmental Engineer
Earle Naval Weapons Station
201 Route 34 South, Building C-23
Colts Neck, NJ 07722-5081

Dear Mr. Helms:

On June 17, 2008, I conducted an aerial detection survey for gypsy moth-caused tree defoliation at Earle Naval Weapons Station. Approximately 10.9 acres of light defoliation (30-50 %) and 865.9 acres of heavy defoliation (51-100%) were detected at your site (Figure 1). An additional 8.7 acres of light defoliation and 6.9 acres of heavy defoliation were detected on adjacent lands. This is the third year in a row that over 750 acres of defoliation has been detected at Earle Naval Weapons Station.

If you anticipate requesting either financial or technical assistance for gypsy moth control in 2009, please contact Brad Onken (304) 285-1546 or me (304) 285-1555 before August 22, 2008.

Please contact me at the above number if you have any questions regarding this aerial survey letter.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Whiteman

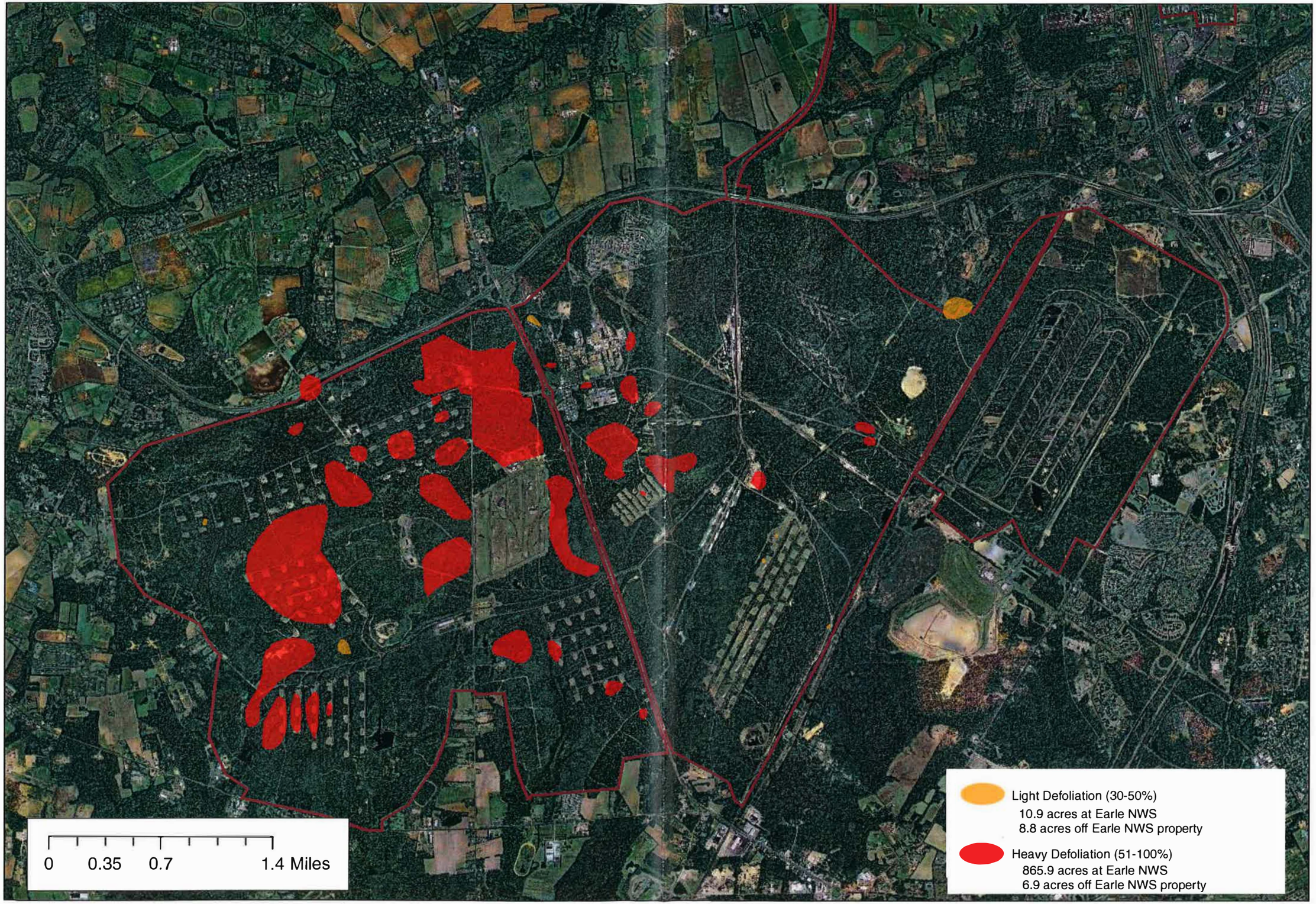
RODNEY L. WHITEMAN
Forester
Forest Health Protection

Enclosure

Cc: George Koeck, NJDF
Joe Zoltowski, NJDA
Noel Schneeberger, AO
Robert Lueckel, MFO

RLW/blm

Figure 1. -- Results of the aerial detection survey conducted at Earle Naval Weapons Station on June 17, 2008.


0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles
Light Defoliation (30-50%)
10.9 acres at Earle NWS
8.8 acres off Earle NWS property
Heavy Defoliation (51-100%)
865.9 acres at Earle NWS
6.9 acres off Earle NWS property